

# Hawthorn Happenings

## Parent Newsletter



Sandy Hemaya, Hawthorn Principal

Lee Heinerikson, Hawthorn Assistant Principal

Dear Parents,

Each fall the Park Hill School District gives our parents the opportunity to complete a survey to offer feedback to our schools and to help us have continuous improvement. This month I am going to share the results from the Hawthorn Parent Survey and then address some of our "lower" percentages to help better inform you of the things we do at Hawthorn.

### Parent Survey Statements

### % of Hawthorn Parents Who Agree

1) The school recognizes the accomplishments of my child.	91.8%
2) My child's opinions are valued by teachers and administrators	78.1%
3) My child's school promotes an environment of mutual respect among students.	93.2%
4) My involvement in my child's education has improved his/her achievement.	97.3%
5) Our school has a program that teaches and reinforces student self-discipline and responsibility.	91.7%
6) My school has clear procedures for handling school emergencies.	86.3%
7) The school values and respects differences among students and their families.	89%
8) Effective assistance is provided to children having difficulty in school.	68.5%
9) The way they teach at this school works well for my child.	87.7%
10) My child has a fair chance to succeed at school.	91.7%
11) My child likes attending this school.	93.2%
12) I can talk with my child's teachers and principal whenever I need.	93.1%
13) I know who well my child is doing in class.	93.1%
14) I feel my child is safe at school.	98.6%
15) I receive information about the educational services available to my child at school.	79.3%
16) My child's school building in is good condition.	98.6%
17) Discipline in my child's school is handled fairly.	85.9%
18) If I could, I would send my child to another school.	18.1%
19) The school encourages parents to be involved.	95.8%
20) My child has been taught in school about respect for other cultures.	81.9%
21) The school offers suggestions about how I can help my child learn at home.	86.1%
22) I am a partner with the school I my child's education.	95.8%
23) I know what my child's teachers expect in school.	91.5%
24) The community of proud of this school.	91.5%
25) My child's teachers are good teachers.	93%
26) I expect my child to do well in school.	98.6%
27) My child's teacher expects good work from my child.	97.2%
28) The guidance counselor is available to help my child if he/she has a personal problem.	73.2%
29) Career-Technical education is an essential part of the district's program of studies.	37.7%
30) I am aware of adult leaning opportunities offered by the district.	62.9%
31) The school is meeting my child's needs as a student.	90.1%
32) This district provides a good value for the tax dollars spent.	85.9%
33) My child's school promotes an environment of mutual respect among students.	95.8%

Our results at Hawthorn are very high, however there is always room for improvement. I would like to quickly address statements 29 and 30 this month.

29) Career-Technical education is an essential part of the district's program of studies. According to our survey, only 37.7% of Hawthorn parents report they are aware of this being part of the Park Hill curriculum. While this is more concentrated at the secondary level, there are things we do at Hawthorn to help prepare our students for the future careers. Our Counselor, Mrs. Ginestra discusses possible careers with various grade levels. She does this during the monthly classes she has with each grade level. Mrs. Ginestra also works throughout the year to arrange speakers from various careers to present on Take Your Child to Work Day. On this day, many students attend work with their parents, so this is a time to inform our students are who not able to participate in this program. Throughout their daily lessons, the teachers also talk with students about the relevancy of what they are learning and how it can help them in the real world with the careers they choose.

30) I am aware of adult learning opportunities offered by the district. According to our survey, 62.9% of Hawthorn parents are aware of the various adult learning activities offered throughout the year. Our Community Education program does an excellent job of offering a variety of classes for all members of our families, at a reasonable price. There are a wide variety of classes offered, which include, but not limited to cooking, sewing/crafts, exercise, and computer classes. If you are interested in these classes, please visit the Park Hill website at <http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us> and click on the District Information tab and then Community Education.

### **Safety Drills**

Being prepared for emergencies is a priority for Hawthorn and that is why we do a variety of drills each month/semester. In January we conducted our monthly fire drill and students were able to exit the building in 1 minute and 35 seconds and we were able to account for all students in under 5 minutes. I am impressed with how seriously our students take these drills and know that if we ever had a real emergency, we would be prepared and know exactly what to do.

### **Hawthorn Student Places 2nd in Park Hill District Spelling Bee**

A big CONGRATULATIONS to Hawthorn's

Trevor Stammeler

for placing 2nd in the Park Hill District Spelling Bee on January 17, 2012. Trevor competed against students in grades 4 through 8 from across the district and placed 2nd! Trevor will now compete in the Platte County Spelling Bee which will be held at Park Hill High School on February 13, 2012. We are very proud of Trevor and wish him the best of luck at the county spelling bee!

### **Hawthorn on Channel 18**

Hawthorn will be featured on Park Hill's Channel 18 for one month beginning on February 20, 2012. Please check out this channel during the month to see some of the great programs we have going on her at Hawthorn. You can also go to the Park Hill interment at <http://www.parkhill.k12.mo.us>, the click on Park Hill TV-Channel 18, then click on Video from Channel 18 and then find Hawthorn Spotlight. This should be on the internet after Feb. 20th.

### **Platte County Parks and Recreation Grant**

Tammy Monoco and Gretchen Devers worked hard this fall to write a grant that was submitted to the Platte County Parks and Recreation Department. This grant is asking for just over \$17,000.00 to do needed updates to our existing playground. This project has three different projects. The first one is to install a 4 foot fence to enclose our playground because our students have shared concerns of stray dogs coming on to the playground. There will be unlocked gates allowing entry to the playground so community members are still welcome to use the equipment as needed. The second project is to remove the piece of equipment known as "the bubble" and replace it with a new piece. The new equipment will be safer and available for all students to play on. The third project on this grant is to replace the mulch with artificial turf. This is a very expensive project and will have to be completed in stages. Included in this grant is to put this surface around the new piece of playground equipment. Hawthorn will also put \$7,000.00 plus to this project from our fall Math-A-Thon and the Park Hill School District will be donating some labor to complete this project as well. We will hear if we receive this grant in mid April and then the work can begin! I will keep everyone posted.

### **Valentine's Celebrations**

Hawthorn will celebrate Valentine's Day on Tuesday, February 14th, beginning with a Jump Rope for Hearth Assembly from 1:30 pm to 2:30 pm. Numerous students will participate in various jump rope activities and races. Students will then return to their classrooms for a drink and treat supplied by our generous PTA and Hawthorn. Students may bring Valentine's to share with their classmates and individual classroom teachers will send home class lists. We do ask that if your child is going to bring Valentine's cards, they bring one for every child in the class, so we don't have hurt feelings. Our parties will conclude at 3:00 pm. As always, parents, grandparents etc., are welcome to join us for the assembly and celebration in the classroom. If you are going to join us, please plan to arrive between 1:15 and 1:30 and meet us in the gym. You may then go to your child's classroom after the assembly. We will also have sign out sheets in each classroom, so if you take your child with you at 3:00 pm, you can sign them out in the classroom before you leave. If you have any questions about this event, please feel free to give me a call at 816-359-5713.



### **Important Dates:**

**Feb. 3rd**—No School—Professional Development Day for Teachers

**Feb. 6th**—Hawthorn MAP/GLA Practice Day

**Feb. 7th**—Hawthorn PTA Meeting—7:30 pm (Note the later start date due to voting)

**Feb. 9th**—Park Hill School Board Meeting—7:00 pm

**Feb. 10th**—Hawthorn Watch DOGS Swim Party—Park Hill Aquatic Center

**Feb. 14th**—Hawthorn Valentine's Day Celebrations

**Feb. 16th**—3rd Grade Field Trip to KC Symphony

**Feb. 17th**—Founder's Day

**Feb. 17th**—No School for High School Students

**Feb. 20th**—No School for All Students—President's Day

**Feb. 23rd**—1st Grade Musical Demonstration

**Feb. 23rd**—Park Hill School Board Meeting—7:00 pm

**Feb. 28th**—Hawthorn McTeacher Night—4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

### **Hawthorn Heroes**

Each month at Hawthorn we will be working on a life skill. We will share examples of the life skill over the announcements and students are expected to practice this skill throughout the month. At the end of the month, classroom teachers choose two or three students who did an exemplary job of displaying the monthly life skill and these students are chosen as a Hawthorn Hero. Each Hawthorn Hero will get a sticker to put in your car window if you choose. They will also be recognized by their teacher in front of their peers. Listed below are the life skills for each month this school year.

September—Respect  
December—Compassion  
March—Perseverance

October—Responsibility  
January—Kindness  
April—Effort

November—Positive Role Model  
February—Honesty  
May—Sportsmanship

<b>Borsella</b>	<b>Meinke</b>	<b>Sweney</b>	<b>Cazzell</b>	<b>Hild</b>	<b>Smith</b>	<b>Wells</b>
<i>Austin Doty</i>	<i>Gavin Cooper</i>	<i>Shane Powers</i>	<i>Monique Robles</i>	<i>Connor Detty</i>	<i>Madelyn Stevens</i>	<i>Kennady Simmons</i>
<i>Samantha Carroll</i>	<i>Elijah Leach</i>	<i>Brock Flowers</i>		<i>Addison Barnett</i>	<i>Sydney Stanfield</i>	<i>Heidi Malfin</i>
<b>Nicholson</b>	<b>Toyne</b>	<b>White</b>	<b>Coen</b>	<b>Wilson</b>	<b>Webster</b>	<b>Harrison</b>
<i>Jarrett Boehler</i>	<i>Kyle Fisher</i>	<i>Sydney Coleman</i>	<i>Devin Oshima</i>	<i>Preston Dishman</i>	<i>Rosie Wilson</i>	<i>Paige Coleman</i>
<i>Carlion Harris</i>	<i>Clara Gust</i>	<i>Meredith Rausch</i>	<i>Nick Allegri</i>		<i>Riese Cofield</i>	<i>Ashley Sanderson</i>
<i>Hunter Valdez</i>					<i>Frank Costanzo</i>	<i>Sarah Cox</i>
	<b>Pittman</b>					
<b>Pickett</b>	<b>Bella Guerro</b>	<b>Andruska</b>	<b>Mestel</b>	<b>Roepe</b>	<b>Lyons</b>	<b>Braudrick</b>
<i>Hiba Lukadi</i>	<i>John Owen</i>	<i>Alexa Lashbrook</i>	<i>Serena Farmer</i>	<i>Tim Lee</i>	<i>Abi Espinoza</i>	<i>Andy Spaulding</i>
<i>Gabe Brewer</i>	<i>Selah McClure</i>	<i>Ariana Truby</i>	<i>Blake Reynolds</i>	<i>Grace Burdiss</i>		
<i>Isaac Martin</i>	<i>Hannah Pore</i>	<i>Jayden Boehler</i>		<i>Brooke Thompson</i>		

### **McTeacher Night is February 28**

Hawthorn will host our Spring McTeacher Night at the McDonald's on Barry Road on Tuesday, February 28th, from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm. During these hours, Hawthorn staff will be working to serve you and offer a pleasant dining experience. In exchange, Hawthorn will get 20% of all the profits made from 4 to 8! Last fall, we raised over \$900.00 for our teachers to purchase resources to be used in the classroom to help our students achieve! Our goal this spring is to raise over \$1000.00 and we hope we can count on your support. If you are busy and can't come in to see your teacher, please take the time to go through the drive through and maybe your teacher will be working the window! We hope to see everyone there to support our school and have a fun night at McDonalds.

### **Recycling at Hawthorn**

Part of Hawthorn's Building School Improvement Plan, BSIP, is to increase our recycling efforts schoolwide. Each room has a recycling bin for paper products and each "pod" area has a larger bin for "co-mingle" items such as cardboard, aluminum and plastic. We know at Hawthorn recycling is an effort that is good for our environment and also can raise money for our school. We are asking for you to join in our recycling efforts by bringing your recyclable items to Hawthorn when possible. In the corner of the north parking lot are two bins for paper only and next to the school by the large trash dumpster is a "co-mingled" bin which is for cardboard, aluminum, and plastic items. This bin says "cardboard only" on it, but you are able to put the other items in there as well. I am working on getting a new bin that will be placed by the others in the parking lot, but have not completed this task as of yet. Thanks in advance for helping us to not only help our environment, but to help raise money for our school as well. If you have any questions regarding our recycling efforts, please give me a call at 359-4390.

### **Watch DOG Swim Party**

Our Watch DOGS will be sponsoring a Hawthorn Swim Party on Friday, February 10th at the Park Hill Aquatic Center located by the football stadium. This event will be from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm and the cost is \$2.00 per swimmer. We hope everyone can make it out for a night of fun in the pool with our Hawthorn family.